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## Europe Frowns on Berlin's Hostility Toward France

## Austria and Russia Warn Germany They Will Support French Policy in Morocco. News of Fatherland

BERLIN, June 10.—The Prussian government is observing closely the result of the arrangement for the mutual interchange of assistance between the German and American police to determine whether its advantages to Germany justify its continuance. In a recent case, where the New York police requested assistance in locating some stolen property in Berlin, the Prussian government delayed action until they had asked and received assurance through the American embassy that similar requests would receive consideration from the American police.

The Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs has now issued an order authorizing assistance to the American police, but only so long as actual reciprocity is observed. The order, therefore, instructs all Prussian police authorities to report to the ministry all requests made to the American police or received from them, with results, in order to test the advisability of the procedure.

## Germany Offends Neighbors.

Germany's aggressive attitude in the Moroccan situation, manifested in a plainly worded official announce-

ment in the North German Gazette, that the empire would consider itself released from the obligations of the Algeiras act and entitled to full liberty of action in case of an occupation of Fez by the French, has been received with great coldness in two unexpected quarters, Austria-Hungary and Russia having given unmistakable intimations that they will not countenance attempts to embarrass France in her present activity.

The attitude of Austria is particularly unwelcome and surprising, because of the supposed indebtedness of Austria for German support in the Bosnian crisis. The German patriots or "armored" press is commenting bitterly on Austrian perfidy, without being able to argue away facts which will deeply affect Germany's future policy.

The Austrian attitude was voiced in a Viennese newspaper. The article in question warned the German Foreign Office that, instead of open and Schoneberg, two of Berlin's support in the Bosnian crisis merely balanced accounts for Austria's efforts as the "loyal second" in the

Algeiras duel, to quote from Emperor William's message of thanks, and that the dual monarchy would back the Germans in no quarrel with France over Moroccan interests.

Russia, through the official paper *Rossia*, stated, as was expected, her confidence in France's good faith, but concluded with a reference to the pending Russo-German negotiations which showed that their outcome would depend on the attitude adopted by Germany in regard to Morocco. Since the publication of the two official articles France has announced that the expedition for the relief of the French officers and foreigners would go on to Fez instead of halting some distance from the capital without evoking any further protests or warnings from the German official press.

Another apparent success of the anti-German diplomacy has been scored in the question of the fortification of the Holland port of Flushing. French and English military writers profess to fear that Germany's plans for a future war with Belgium contemplate a violation of the Belgian neutrality by sending an invading army through Belgium into France, and see in the Holland proposal to fortify Flushing, which commands the entrance to the Scheldt river, leading to Antwerp, a menace to the counter-scheme of anticipating this by throwing troops by sea into Belgium through Antwerp. The Holland ministry protested that it was only exercising the undoubted right of any sovereign state to erect fortifications for its own defense and that Belgium neutrality seemed threatened as much by one as by the other scheme. Under pressure, however, the fortification plans have been quietly dropped.

## Striking Irregularities.

The decision of Charlottenburg and Schoenberg, two of Berlin's largest suburbs, to appeal to the Reichstag to assign to each of them a representative in that body again calls attention to the striking inequalities in the size of the Reichstag districts.

Contrary to the American practice of readjusting the representation of the various States after each census, the Germans have never undertaken a change in the electoral law of the North German Federation, adopted in 1869, which was taken over by the empire with only such changes as were necessary to make it apply to South Germany as well. According to that law, the Reichstag districts should contain approximately 100,000 inhabitants, which meant in 1869 an average of 20,000 voters to each district, but the average has now risen to 36,000 voters. Owing, however, to the great shifting of population that has taken place in the past forty-two years, some districts, chiefly in the large cities and manufacturing regions, have grown to huge proportions, while not a few others have dwindled to even a smaller population than in 1869. There are at least twelve districts having each over 100,000 voters. One district, embracing Charlottenburg, Schoneberg and a number of other thriving suburbs of Berlin, has about 230,000 voters, while one of the Berlin districts numbers 225,000. On the other hand, about a dozen districts have less than 16,000 voters.

The reason why the Reichstag takes no steps to carry out the law of 1869 is that the majority parties profit most by the existing inequalities of representation, and any readjusting of the country upon the basis

of population would greatly add to the votes of the Socialists in the Reichstag, who are strongest in the great cities that have multiplied so rapidly in population since 1869.

## Beer Is Too Frothy.

Echoes of the popular indignation against the practice of serving inordinate quantities of froth for beer, which recently resulted in jail sentences for a number of restaurant keepers and waiters at Munich and a temporary boycott of one of the largest beer palaces in that city, continue to be heard throughout Bavaria. A commandant of the military police at Pirmasens, who found too much "foam" on his stool, sent a squad to bring before him the barmaid who had drawn the beer and forcibly detained her until he had given a plain talk on legal requirements under the short measure law. For this the commandant has finally been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for infringement of the barmaid's personal liberty. The case previously had been carried through two military and three civil tribunals.

## Students Insult Emperor.

As a result of a student prank played on the German Emperor during his visit to Karlsruhe, the senate of the Karlsruhe Technical University has suspended an entire student fraternity for the current semester. While the Emperor was here some half a dozen hilarious members of the fraternity impressed an open carriage and drove up and down before the Grand Ducal Palace, where the Emperor was staying, drinking beer out of a keg and singing questionable songs. It was only with great difficulty that the police were able to put an end to the convivial performance and restore the carriage to its owner.

## CURIOSITIES IN FOOTPRINTS.

The "marks of time" may shift and destroy the chance impression, but the sun-baked clay holds its record for future generations to interpret. The present restoration of the Venetian Campanile has brought to light some curious discoveries. One of the bricks used in its original construction bears the imprint of a horseshoe. Some ancient steed evidently stamped upon the bit of clay before it hardened. It has long been believed that the horse of that period wore shoes which were strapped upon its feet. This impression proves, on the other hand, that shoeing with nails was not unknown in those days. The story of prints inadvertently made upon soft brick is an interesting one. Mr. Francis T. Buckland gives some examples of such impressions in his "Curiosities of Natural History."

Some clear and unmistakable impressions are found in the ancient Babylonian bricks. A vagabond dog, strolling by the still soft clay, put his foot on one brick and left a distinct mark which obliterated in part the letters of the royal inscription. The dog has been dead for thousands of years; the king with whose title the brick was stamped is only a name in history, yet the little incident is as clear today as when it happened. Some old Egyptian bricks bear the marks of cats' feet, and one retains the tiny prints of the little jerboa. Shoen's hoof-marks have been found on old Roman bricks. One villa tells the story of a rainstorm while its building material was in the process of making. The bricks are covered with little round pits made by the falling drops, and the earthworms, enticed by the wet, have crawled over the soft surface. One Roman brick bears the print of a boy's fingers. Did the urchin get a scolding for meddling?

A brick is not the only substance which relates its former impressions. An elephant, a resident of an English zoo, stepped on the fresh cement which had been put about a pool. The large footprints thus left formed a tiny lake of itself into which a wandering chick fell and was drowned.

Mr. Buckland tells of some mysterious footprints which he discovered and which caused him a good deal of puzzling thought. He noticed, time and again, in a quiet London street strange marks in the mud or snow, which apparently were made by thick-soled boots with iron-shod heels. But the prints were separated, each toe being two feet from the corresponding heel, and the well-defined toe pointing backward. Again and again Mr. Buckland tried to explain the trail. At last, after a heavy snow one day, he tracked the prints to their source.

He found the marks were made by a cripple who could not walk upright. To save his knees he had cut hob-nailed boots in two, strapped the heels to his knees and put the toes on his feet. He crawled on his knees and toes, and so the heels were in front of the toes.

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